

In light of the potential serious threats the U.S. and rest of the world faces, and because of the benefits we all can gain from an exchange of ideas, we should consider whether we can afford not to.

□ 1200

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY TO FILE A REPORT ON H.R. 1530, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on National Security be allowed during the Memorial Day district work period to file a report on the bill (H.R. 1530) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1996, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURTON of Indiana). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I will not object, and I would simply observe that this was cleared with the minority. We appreciate that.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

THE VALUE OF EDUCATION

(Mr. MARTINEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I do not think anyone can dispute the fact that education is one of the keys to success.

All one needs to do is look around and see that the leaders in every walk of life are generally educated people.

Mr. Speaker, so many of our immigrants came here with no education and not much else either.

But they worked hard and sacrificed so that their children could have an education and reap the harvest of the bountiful opportunities in their wonderful new country.

As a result, each succeeding generation did better and we as a country enjoyed the fruits of that harvest.

Sadly, as hard as it was for the first Americans, it is not that easy anymore—costs are up and the economy is down.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the price of freedom is a well-educated people, and our Founding Fathers thought so too when they created a public school system to educate every young person in our country.

Now, as today's leaders, we should realize in a modern world that K through 12 is not enough to keep us competitive.

If this is true, and I think most would agree, then why is the leadership

on the other side of the aisle—who incidentally are both college professors and know the value of education—leading us away from a full education commitment in a way that will allow only the very rich of this country to be educated?

EXCERPT FROM "PRISONERS OF THE JAPANESE"

(Mr. DORNAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, I have been slowly going through an incredible book by a fine Australian author named Gavan Daws. The title of the book is "Prisoners of the Japanese." I have to return it this week to the Library of Congress, so I secured a copy from William Morrow Publishing in New York.

I would like to read a paragraph from the young publicist Justin Loeber and why I want to do an hour on this book and the broader theme of the unbelievably savage and brutal sadistic medieval torture of our POW's by Japan under its warlords.

Young Justin Loeber writes to me: "On a wider scale, this book, 'Prisoners of the Japanese,' is a story of compassion for the elderly. After reading Mr. Gavan Daws' book, I now have more patience for that old person who is standing in line at the post office—the person that has a limp or bad eyesight and moves a little slower than the rest of us. This person could have been tortured by the Japanese. Also, this book has taught me to commemorate Memorial Day as it should be, not at the mall celebrating the greatest sale of the year, but honoring those people who fought for our country. I"—this is Mr. Loeber—"will be going with Gavan Daws to the 50th reunion of the survivors of Bataan and Corregidor in Braintree, MA, over this Memorial Day weekend."

Mr. Speaker, I will do an hour on this later.

BE RELEVANT, MR. PRESIDENT

(Mrs. SEASTRAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago the President insisted in a press conference that he was relevant. Mr. Speaker, it is time for him to prove his relevance.

As a freshman Member of this House, I was under the assumption that the President and the two Houses of Congress worked together diligently when legislation would affect the very future of our country and future generations. Saving our country from bankruptcy is just such an issue. Yet where is the President on this issue?

Last week President Clinton indicated to New Hampshire radio interviewers he would offer a plan to bal-

ance the budget in either 7 or 10 years. But insisting on remaining irrelevant, this week Mr. Clinton backed away from yet another campaign pledge and said he would not offer a plan to balance the budget and save the next generation.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the President is attempting to play politics with a very important issue. I hope he will reconsider his political stance and join the freshmen and other Members of this body as we attempt to give a future to our children that includes the ability to leave them the family farm and not simply the mortgage.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. OWENS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

LET'S BE TRUTHFUL ABOUT MEDICARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. EHLERS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, those in this Chamber who know me know that I am a person who values integrity. You also know that when I speak on the floor and discuss issues, I try to be as factual as possible; perhaps that is my scientific background, my scientific training coming to the fore.

But I have to confess that I was upset this morning. I have been upset over the past several weeks at the attempt of the other side of the aisle to beat upon the theme—and I really mean the word beat and beat and beat again—to beat upon the theme that somehow the Republicans are trying to cut taxes by \$300 billion and they are trying to cut Medicare by \$300 billion to pay for the tax cut.